

## General

### Title

Ambulatory surgery: percentage of patients having surgical procedures under general or neuraxial anesthesia of 60 minutes or more in duration who are normothermic within 15 minutes of arrival in the post-anesthesia care unit (PACU).

### Source(s)

ASC Quality Collaboration. ASC quality measures: implementation guide. Version 3.2. Saint Petersburg (FL): ASC Quality Collaboration; 2015 Oct. 37 p.

## Measure Domain

### Primary Measure Domain

Clinical Quality Measures: Outcome

### Secondary Measure Domain

Does not apply to this measure

## Brief Abstract

### Description

This measure is used to assess the percentage of patients having surgical procedures under general or neuraxial anesthesia of 60 minutes or more in duration who are normothermic within 15 minutes of arrival in the post-anesthesia care unit (PACU).

### Rationale

Impairment of thermoregulatory control due to anesthesia may result in perioperative hypothermia. Hypothermia, even when mild, is associated with consequences such as increased susceptibility to infection, impaired coagulation, cardiovascular stress and cardiac complications, as well as post-anesthetic shivering and thermal discomfort. Several methods to maintain normothermia are available.

There is no literature available on variation in rates of normothermia among Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) providers. However, variability in maintaining normothermia has been demonstrated in other

settings.

#### Clinical Practice Guidelines

This performance measure is aligned with current guidelines regarding temperature management in patients undergoing general or neuraxial anesthesia lasting 60 minutes or more.

## Evidence for Rationale

ASC Quality Collaboration. ASC quality measures: implementation guide. Version 3.2. Saint Petersburg (FL): ASC Quality Collaboration; 2015 Oct. 37 p.

## Primary Health Components

Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC); normothermia; anesthesia (general or neuraxial)

## Denominator Description

All patients, regardless of age, undergoing surgical procedures under general or neuraxial anesthesia of greater than or equal to 60 minutes duration (see the related "Denominator Inclusions/Exclusions" field)

## Numerator Description

Surgery patients with a body temperature equal to or greater than 96.8 Fahrenheit/36 Celsius recorded within 15 minutes of arrival in the post-anesthesia care unit (PACU) (see the related "Numerator Inclusions/Exclusions" field)

## Evidence Supporting the Measure

### Type of Evidence Supporting the Criterion of Quality for the Measure

A clinical practice guideline or other peer-reviewed synthesis of the clinical research evidence

A formal consensus procedure, involving experts in relevant clinical, methodological, public health and organizational sciences

A systematic review of the clinical research literature (e.g., Cochrane Review)

One or more research studies published in a National Library of Medicine (NLM) indexed, peer-reviewed journal

### Additional Information Supporting Need for the Measure

Unspecified

## Extent of Measure Testing

The measures included in this implementation guide have been developed using a multi-step process. Each has been vetted with both an internal panel of technical experts and an external panel of individuals and/or organizations with relevant expertise. All of the measures have been pilot tested in Ambulatory Surgery Centers (ASCs) and assessed for validity, feasibility and reliability.

## Evidence for Extent of Measure Testing

ASC Quality Collaboration. ASC quality measures: implementation guide. Version 3.2. Saint Petersburg (FL): ASC Quality Collaboration; 2015 Oct. 37 p.

## State of Use of the Measure

### State of Use

Current routine use

### Current Use

not defined yet

## Application of the Measure in its Current Use

### Measurement Setting

Ambulatory Procedure/Imaging Center

### Professionals Involved in Delivery of Health Services

not defined yet

### Least Aggregated Level of Services Delivery Addressed

Single Health Care Delivery or Public Health Organizations

### Statement of Acceptable Minimum Sample Size

Does not apply to this measure

### Target Population Age

All ages

### Target Population Gender

Either male or female

## National Strategy for Quality Improvement in Health Care

### National Quality Strategy Aim

## National Quality Strategy Aim

Better Care

## National Quality Strategy Priority

Prevention and Treatment of Leading Causes of Mortality

# Institute of Medicine (IOM) National Health Care Quality Report Categories

## IOM Care Need

Getting Better

## IOM Domain

Effectiveness

## Data Collection for the Measure

## Case Finding Period

Unspecified

## Denominator Sampling Frame

Patients associated with provider

## Denominator (Index) Event or Characteristic

Therapeutic Intervention

## Denominator Time Window

not defined yet

## Denominator Inclusions/Exclusions

### Inclusions

All patients, regardless of age, undergoing surgical procedures under general\* or neuraxial\*\* anesthesia of greater than or equal to 60 minutes duration\*\*\*

\**General anesthesia*: Drug-induced loss of consciousness during which the patient is not arousable, even by painful stimulation.

\*\**Neuraxial anesthesia*: Epidural or spinal anesthesia.

\*\*\**Anesthesia duration*: The difference, in minutes, between the time associated with the start of anesthesia for the principal procedure and the time associated with the end of anesthesia for the principal procedure.

## Exclusions

Patients who did not have general or neuraxial anesthesia  
Patients whose length of anesthesia was less than 60 minutes  
Patients with physician/advanced practice nurse (APN)/physician assistant (PA) documentation of intentional hypothermia\* for the procedure performed

*\*Intentional hypothermia:* A deliberate, documented effort to lower the patient's body temperature in the perioperative period.

## Exclusions/Exceptions

not defined yet

## Numerator Inclusions/Exclusions

### Inclusions

Surgery patients with a body temperature equal to or greater than 96.8 Fahrenheit/36 Celsius recorded within 15 minutes of arrival in the post-anesthesia care unit (PACU)

### Note:

*Temperature:* A measure in either Fahrenheit or Celsius of the warmth of a patient's body. Axillary, bladder, core, esophageal, oral, rectal, skin surface, temporal artery, or tympanic temperature measurements may be used.  
*Arrival in PACU:* Time of patient arrival in PACU.

### Exclusions

None

## Numerator Search Strategy

Institutionalization

## Data Source

Paper medical record

## Type of Health State

Physiologic Health State (Intermediate Outcome)

## Instruments Used and/or Associated with the Measure

- Sample Data Collection Sheet: Normothermia
- Sample Data Collection Log: Normothermia

## Computation of the Measure

## Measure Specifies Disaggregation

Does not apply to this measure

## Scoring

Rate/Proportion

## Interpretation of Score

Desired value is a higher score

## Allowance for Patient or Population Factors

not defined yet

## Standard of Comparison

not defined yet

## Identifying Information

### Original Title

Normothermia.

### Measure Collection Name

Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) Quality Measures

### Submitter

Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) Quality Collaboration - Health Care Quality Collaboration

### Developer

Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) Quality Collaboration - Health Care Quality Collaboration

### Funding Source(s)

Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) providers; nursing, physician, and provider associations

### Composition of the Group that Developed the Measure

Ambulatory Surgery Center (ASC) providers; nursing, physician, and provider associations; provider accrediting organizations

### Financial Disclosures/Other Potential Conflicts of Interest

None

## Adaptation

This measure was not adapted from another source.

## Date of Most Current Version in NQMC

2015 Oct

## Measure Maintenance

Unspecified

## Date of Next Anticipated Revision

Unspecified

## Measure Status

This is the current release of the measure.

## Measure Availability

Source available from the [Ambulatory Surgery Center \(ASC\) Quality Collaboration Web site](#)

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For more information, contact the ASC Quality Collaboration's Executive Director, Donna Slosburg, at E-mail: [donnaslosburg@ascquality.org](mailto:donnaslosburg@ascquality.org); Web site: [ascquality.org](http://ascquality.org) .

## NQMC Status

This NQMC summary was completed by ECRI Institute on August 3, 2015. The information was verified by the measure developer on September 11, 2015.

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## Production

### Source(s)

ASC Quality Collaboration. ASC quality measures: implementation guide. Version 3.2. Saint Petersburg (FL): ASC Quality Collaboration; 2015 Oct. 37 p.

## Disclaimer

### NQMC Disclaimer

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